

## What we don't do?

We don't provide therapy, activity programmes or school assessment. These services are provided by the Children's Occupational Therapy Team at Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust. For advice, or to find out more about how to make a referral to this team, parents can call:  
Tel: 01743 450800

## How long will the Occupational Therapist work with my child?

This depends greatly on your needs of your child, and the outcome of the initial assessment.

Occupational Therapy support may end when:

- Equipment has been provided to meet your child's needs at home,
- Your home has been adapted, or you have been rehoused to meet the needs of your child
- Your child has been supported to find a new way of carrying out an activity

## Who can make a referral?

For an assessment of your child's needs at home, you are able to refer directly to the Occupational Therapy Service by calling:

Shropshire Council

First Point of Contact

Tel: 0345 678 9021

Telephone lines are open between Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 5pm, and on Friday from 8.45am to 4pm.

## What will happen once a referral has been made?

If the referral is accepted, you will be contacted by an Occupational Therapist to arrange an initial assessment.

If the referral is not accepted, we will, where possible, signpost you to other services who may be better able to meet your child's needs.



# Children's Occupational Therapy Service



Information for  
parents and  
carers

## What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapy is a client-centred health profession concerned with promoting health and wellbeing through occupation. The primary goal of occupational therapy is to enable people to participate in the activities (occupations) of everyday life.

Occupational Therapists achieve this outcome by working with people and communities to enhance their ability to engage in the occupations they want to, need to, or are expected to do, or by modifying the occupation or the environment to better support their occupational engagement.

(World Federation of Occupational Therapists 2012)

## How can we help you and your child?

Occupational Therapists within our service; help children and young people, who are not able to complete activities at home, due to illness or disability, to be as independent as possible, by working with the child and their family.

This may include looking at new ways of doing activities, providing specialist equipment and/or adapting the home.



## What will a Children's Occupational Therapist do?

The Occupational Therapist will carry out an initial assessment, which usually takes place at your home. The assessment will consider those activities that your child wants to, needs to, or is expected to do, and identify strengths and challenges.

Following an assessment, the Occupational Therapist may decide, with you, to do one or more of the following:

- Recommend and provide specialist equipment for use at home to support you, and your child, with participation in everyday activities
- Advise on/make recommendations for adaptations at home to improve access to essential facilities, for your child, and advise on grants that may be available
- Provide support and advice regarding rehousing
- Provide support and advice regarding safety within the home
- Explore new ways of carrying out activities
- Signpost to other professional and voluntary agencies